

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 AID-05 PC-01 /088 W

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P R 211240Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9433

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L NDJAMENA 0956

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PINS, CD

SUBJ: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH NEW REGIME

REF: (A) N'DJAMENA 925 (NOTAL)

(B) TRIPOLI 464 (NOTAL)

(C) STATE 84418 (NOTAL)

1. FOLLOWING SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL (SMC) MEETING WITH DIPLOMATIC CORPS APRIL 18 (REF A), FRENCH AMBASSADOR TOUZE IN CAPACITY DEAN OF CORPS MET AT HIS REQUEST WITH SMC PRESIDENT MALLOUM AND SMC. TOUZE ASKED HOW CORPS SHOULD BE IN CONTACT WITH SMC AND NEW GOVERNMENT TO DEAL WITH ANY MATTERS WHICH MIGHT ARISE. MALLOUM REPLIED THAT HE AWARE OF PROBLEM, WAS ANXIOUS TO PRESS ON, BUT DESIRED TO PROCEED STEP BY STEP. FOR MEMEMT, THEREFORE, AMBASSADORS SHOULD ADDRESS ANY FUTURE REQUESTS DIRECTLY TO "THE PRESIDENCY" OF THE SMC.

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2. AT 1700 APRIL 18 (ACCORDING CHAD RADIO AND PRESS) LIBYAN

AMBASSADOR BICHARI MET WITH SMC PRESIDENT AT HIS REQUEST. MORNING APRIL 19 BICHARI HAD INTERVIEW WITH CHADIAN REPORTER FROM INFOTCHAD AND SAID HE HAD INFORMED MALLOUM OF RECOGNITION BY GOL OF NEW REGIME CHAD AND THAT HE "ASSURED NEW CHADIAN AUTHORITIES OF GREAT DESIRE OF GOL TO PURSUE COOPERATION BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES" AND THAT MALLOUM IN TURN TOLD HIM OF SMC DESIRE TO SEE "BROTHERLY RELATIONS" BETWEEN LIBYA AND CHAD. COMMENT: HASTE WITH WHICH GOL DECIDED FORMALLY GO ON RECORD IN FAVOR NEW CHADIAN REGIME MAY BE DUE IN PART TO PERSISTENT RUMORS IN N'DJAMENA THAT SEARCH BY NEW REGIME OF HOUSE OF ARRESTED FORMER N'DJAMENA MAYOR AND MNRCS EXEC COUNCIL MEMBER MAHAMAT DJARMA REVEALED COMPROMISING CORRESPONDENCE WITH MEMBERS GOL INCLUDING QADHAFI, LARGE SUMY LIBYAN CURRENCY, ETC. WHETHER OR NOT RUMORS ARE ACCURATE, THEY ACCORD WITH GENERALLY HELD BELIEFS REGARDING DJARMA'S SENTIMENTS AND THUS ARE WIDELY CONSIDERED TRUE. LIBYANS THEREFORE PROBABLY WISHED TO DISAVOW ANY SUBVERSIVE INTENTIONS EARLY IN GAME AND USED SOMEWHAT OSTENTATIOUS AND HURRIED RECOGNITION AS MEANS.

3. NEW REGIME APPEARS TO BE IN FULL CONTROL OF COUNTRY. ALTHOUGH BY CIRCULAR NOTE DATED APRIL 20 FROM SMC TO ALL DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS (FIRST WRITTEN COMMUNICATION, INCIDENTALLY) DIPLOMATS ARE LIMITED "PROVISIONALLY" FROM TRAVELLING BEYOND RADIUS OF 40 KILOMETERS OF N'DJAMENA AND EMBASSY THUS CANNOT CONFIRM TRANQUILITY COUNTRYSIDE AT FIRST HAND. NEWLY APPOINTED MEMBERS OF FOUR NATIONAL COMMISSIONS SET UP BY SMC APPEAR TO BE REASONABLE CORSS SECTION SMALL CHADIAN ESTABLISHMENT. INCLUDING SEVERAL SENIOR MEMBERS OF TOMBALBAYE REGIME. (SEE SEPTTEL).

4. PROBLEMS NEW REGIME HAS INHERITED AND DELICATE TASK FORMING NEW GOVERNMENT ARE SMC'S PRIORITY CONCERNS; SMC PROBABLY NOT OVERLY CONCERNED FOR MOMENT AT OBTAINING IMMEDIATE FORMAL STATEMENTS RECOGNITION FROM OTHER NATIONS. WHEN ASKED ABOUT RECOGNITION IN APRIL 19 PRESS CONFERENCE, MALLOUM NOTED LIBYAN RECOGNITION ONLY FORMAL RECOGNITION THUS FAR CONVEYED BUT THAT REGIME AWAITING OTHERS.
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